

# United States Department of the Interior FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Hagerman National Fish Hatchery 3059D National Fish Hatchery Road Hagerman, ID 83332



MEMORANDUM July 27, 2004

TO: ARD-Fisheries Attn: Rich Johnson, Field Supervisor

FROM: Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: June Activity Report

## **PRODUCTION**

## Steelhead Brood Year 2004

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
105	Pahsimeroi	196,258	582.36	337	2.002
106	Sawtooth	903,295	1,050	860	1.457
107	Clearwater B	206,784	269.60	767	1.520

All lots and stocks of BY2004 SST have hatched and are on feed. The fish are performing extremely well. Hatching success for all lots combined was 94 percent. Cleaning pipes were installed in most tanks during the month, and several lots were switched from soft moist starter to soft moist #1. All stocks will remain in the hatchery buildings until the last week of July. The BY2004 fish marking plan was issued during June. Under this years plan, marking and tagging will be identical to BY2003 marking and tagging.

## Rainbow Trout (Dworshak Reservoir Mitigation)

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
104	Hayspur Triploid Rainbows	53,095	4,116	12.9	5.79

Lot 104 triploid rainbow trout were moved from the upper deck steelhead raceways to the Rainbow trout raceways. The fish were split from three raceways to six to allow for growth until stocking size in October.

The rainbows appear to be healthy and mortality remains low. No fish health inspections were conducted in June.

#### **OPERATIONS**

Various Hatchery staff participated in conference calls covering a variety of topics including:

- 1. Issues related to the prevalence of New Zealand Mudsnail in the Hatchery's water supply as it relates to future stocking and the risk of spreading this invasive species to new areas.
- 2. The Wage Grade Employees Committee monthly conference call.
- 3. Condition Assessment conference call to discuss issues and procedure of the Hatchery's upcoming Condition Assessment.

Randy Schmeller, Engineering, conducted a pre-bid meeting on the Spring 13 Pipeline and Brailsford Flume water measurement structure.

## **COORDINATION**

Kurt Schilling, Assistant Hatchery Project Leader, presented a lecture on fish distribution to a tribal aquaculture training class being hosted by the University at the University of Idaho, Fish Culture Experiment Station.

Lance Roberts, Zone Fire Management Officer, S.E. Idaho, National Wildlife Refuge Complex (NWR), and his two-man fire crew, were on site during the week of June 21 to remove trees and brush along the north fence boundary located east of the Hatchery's entrance road. Although this area had a relatively high fuel load it did not burn during the Oster Lake Fire because of the intense aerial fire suppression effort directed at it during the fire. The potential exists, still, that a fire on Service land in this area could escape to private property and result in the loss of two homes. The two neighboring homes are densely surrounded by trees and shrubbery that would support and carry fire to the dwellings. Lance discussed the risk of fire danger with the land owners prior to initiating the project. The Idaho Wildland and Urban Interface Program funding covered the cost for the S.E. Idaho NWR crew.

While on site, FMO Roberts enlisted additional assistance from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), South Central Idaho Interagency Fire Center, to have their fire crews assist in fuels reduction along the north fence line and in other areas of the Hatchery grounds. The BLM did not assess any charge for their participation; it is covered under the interagency fire suppression agreement. The hatchery provided a chipper for the crews to use to dispose of the slash. In conjunction with the fuels reduction BLM and Forest Service trainers conducted chain saw certification for their crews. A large number of standing snags burned during the Oster Lake Fire were felled and removed.

## PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

Mark Olson, Steve Money, Eric Willet, James Brandon, and Brian Clifford attended ATV training conducted on site by Max Yingst, Outdoor Recreation Planner, BLM. National Park Service (NPS) staff also participated in the training exercise.

All staff participated in a one-day team building exercise conducted by Cheryl Binda, Binda Consultants, Boise, Idaho. This was a follow-up activity based on last year's successful team building training session.

Eric Willet, Motor Vehicle Operator, attended the week long Wage Grade Professionals Workshop at NCTC.

## **OUTREACH**

The Friends of North West Hatcheries have accepted the Hatchery as a participating member of the group. Concurrent with this effort, Bryan Kenworthy has been working with two local area non-profit groups to develop a proposal to seek funding via the Federal Highways-Service Roads program for modification of the Thousand Spring Scenic By-Way Corridor, Management Plan to include development of a Shared Visitor Center. Having the frame work of the Friends group in place will facilitate creation of a local friends group to participate in the shared visitor center.

Hatchery staff Bryan Kenworthy, Kurt Schilling, Mark Olson, Anna Ray, Eric Willet and Hatchery Volunteer Peggy Kenworthy participated in the annual Idaho Free Fishing Day. The event is sponsored by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and is held the second Saturday in June. Hagerman State Hatchery hosted the activities which included fishing, casting instruction, fish cleaning, raffle, fish printing, picture certificates, and refreshments provided to the participants free of charge. The day was a great success with over 300 people signing in and many more in the area taking advantage of the free fishing opportunity.

Two scheduled tours were given this month to Mountain Home Parks and Recreation Summer Kid Venture Program and Hagerman Fossil Beds Monument NPS seasonal staff training tour. There were 27 people in the tour groups.

530 people signed the visitor registry this month.

#### **MAINTENANCE**

## Vehicles and Equipment

- New tires were installed on maintenance pick-up.
- New tires were installed on all three fish transport trailers.
- A new pump and motor were ordered for old fish pump.
- New starter and wiring harness were installed on Ford F-150.
- New fish pump hoses were purchased.
- New pressure washer was purchased.
- The oxygen lines were replaced on fish transport trailers.
- Replacement feed truck had feed box installed and old truck transferred to LSRCP program.

## **Buildings and Grounds**

- Terry's Heating removed fuel oil heater and 500 gallon fuel storage tank from welding and installed new electric heater in welding shop. This corrects a finding relevant to the environmental compliance audit regarding above ground fuel tanks.
- Installed new pipes, swivels, and valves at truck fill and transfer tank fill.
- Argus Electric installed GFCI breakers in garages of quarters 4,5,6,7.
- Disked fire line around hatchery property.
- Sealed and painted chilled water tank.
- Safety stop were adjusted on security gate.
- New batteries were purchased and installed for building security systems.
- Replaced a 200 amp breaker in Administration building.
- Anderson Window Tinting applied tinting film to administration buildings front windows. Tinting was applied to reduce glare on computer screens.